

it are distinct objects, and although they ought never to be separated, there is no such connexion between them, than that one necessarily follows the other. It is the business of education to instruct in both alike; to combine theory and practice, as mutual correctives of each other. To apply the general principles here advanced, to the different branches of study pursued in schools, would require more of detail than the limits of this report will permit. The Superintendent will therefore proceed to give some general account of the recent improvements in education under the name of the Lancastrian system.

The following summary of that system has been digested and prepared from an approved Manual of the British and Foreign School Society, which is believed to contain a more detailed account of the plan than the original exposition published by the author.

“The whole system is founded upon a principal of order and discipline, by which the pupils, under the inspection of the master, pursue a course of mutual instruction; those who have made the greatest progress in reading, writing, and arithmetic, transmitting the knowledge they possess to others less advanced than themselves. Those pupils have the title of Monitors; they have the right of selecting one or more Assistant Monitors, if the number of children entrusted to them be too large. Thus by employing the children as teachers, in carrying forward instruction in every class, a single master may superintend a school of 500 to 1000 scholars.

“In the first organization of a school, there must be a division into classes; those pupils being placed together, whose abilities and proficiency are nearly equal, either in reading or arithmetic. From this circumstance proceeds two different classifications; when the children are engaged in reading, the pupils of every class are placed according to their proficiency in reading; and when they are engaged in cyphering, the pupils of each class are placed according to their proficiency in arithmetic. The consequence of this arrangement is, that the pupils of a class of reading or arithmetic, are on a level, they have the same degree of knowledge to acquire, and the same duties to fulfil, in order to qualify them for a superior class.

“In reading, the whole school is divided into 8 classes—the 1st class learn the alphabet—the second class, words and syllables of two letters—3d class, words and syllables of three letters—4th class, words and syllables of four letters—5th class, reading lessons of one syllable—6th class,